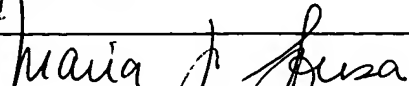


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail (ER 767956596 US) in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.			
Typed or Printed Name	Maria J. Sousa		
Signature		Date	December 12, 2003

<p>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</p> <p>Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p>	Attorney Docket	GUID-011CON2
	Confirmation No.	Not yet assigned
	First Named Inventor	Hu, Lawrence W.
	Application Number	Not yet assigned
	Filing Date	Herewith (December 12, 2003)
	Group Art Unit	Not yet assigned
	Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
	Title	Surgical Instruments for Accessing and Stabilizing a Localized Portion of a Beating Heart

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the current application as follows: